



The COLLECTIVE CHRONICLES

The Children's Collective, Inc.

April 2025

A Poverty Alleviation Non-Profit

WHO WE ARE

TCCI is dedicated to alleviating poverty and transforming lives in South Los Angeles by empowering children, youth, and their families to overcome systemic challenges and build pathways to sustainable success through high-quality, comprehensive, educational and family support services.



WHAT WE'RE DOING



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WHERE WE ARE

Locations

The Children's Collective, Inc. has 10 locations in the South Los Angeles area, offering various programs and services. To learn more, check out our website:

CHILDRENSCOLLECTIVE.ORG

Administrative Office

8616 La Tijera Blvd Ste 100
Los Angeles, CA 90045
(310) 870-1370


TCCI continuously enrolls for infant, toddler, and preschool programs. Call 424-286-4409.



CORNER CEO



As the season changes and the world around us begins to bloom, we are reminded that Spring is a season of movement, renewal, and growth. It is nature's way of telling us to shake off the weight of winter, embrace the warmth of new possibilities, and Spring Forward into the next chapter of our journey.

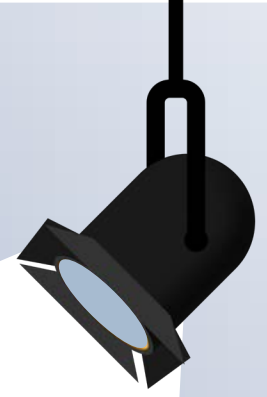


At The Children's Collective Inc., we are in the business of helping others Spring Forward—whether it's a child taking their first steps in one of our early education programs, a family receiving the support they need to build a better future, or a mother gaining the resources to ensure her baby thrives. Every day, we help people move from where they are to where they are destined to be.

But in all that we give to others, let's not forget to Spring Forward in our own lives.

Spring Forward in Self-Care - Take the time to refill your own cup. You cannot pour into others if you are running on empty.

Spring Forward in Finances - Set new goals, save with intention, and build the future you desire.



Spring Forward in Health

- Small steps today lead to a healthier tomorrow. Prioritize your well-being.

Spring Forward in Relationships - Nurture the connections that bring you joy and strength.

Spring Forward in Purpose - You are here for a reason. Invest in the dreams and passions that set your soul on fire.

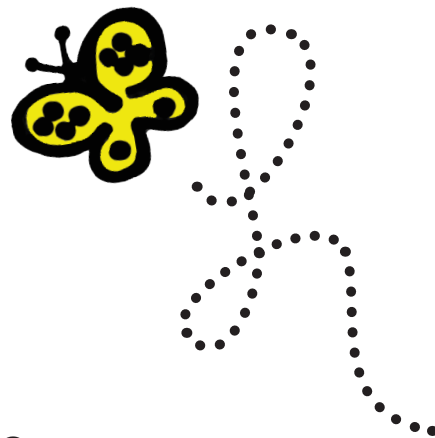
This month, let's embrace the spirit of Spring and commit to moving forward boldly, intentionally, and with purpose. As we uplift others, let's also uplift ourselves—because a well-nourished heart, mind, and body only increases our ability to serve.

Let's Spring Forward together!

In service and gratitude,

Dr. Charles Lee-Johnson

CEO, The Children's Collective Inc.



CLIENT SPOTLIGHT: MEET LONDY

How are you involved with TCCI?

Londy is a parent at TCCI's Florence Childcare Center. She is always volunteering to support the staff and kids at Florence. She often brings in different items related to lesson topics, like toys, plants, and flowers. She even made holiday ornaments for the classroom this past winter.



How long have you been a TCCI client?

Londy's oldest child was enrolled at Florence Childcare Center and now her second child is enrolled. She's been with TCCI for about two and a half years.



In what ways has TCCI changed your life?

Londy says that TCCI has helped her children's development and independence. She says that her kids also learned how to eat family style and to serve themselves during mealtimes.



Tell us more about you!

Londy always has a positive attitude, and is compassionate and communicative with the staff at Florence. She is always willing to help in her child's classroom and the center overall.

We're grateful to be a part of your journey, Londy!

PRESCHOOL KIDS ARE ON THE MOVE



Last month, TCCI preschool children explored the exciting world of Roads and Simple Machines. Preschoolers love learning about things that go! The children had an amazing time learning about everyday things that are, in reality, simple machines. The children learned about streetlights, methods of transportation, street signs, road safety, and so much more.



The children truly enjoyed the engaging activities. They used various pretend play scenarios to practice road safety. In some scenarios, they took on roles as pedestrians to practice walking across the street or as drivers to practice stopping at a red light.

In addition to the activities, the children were also able to hold conversations regarding different methods of transportation. The teachers presented some of the following questions to the children: "What is transportation?" "How and why do people move around?" "How is transportation different for different people or in different places?" "What do we do to make transportation safe?" From these questions, the children were able to provide their prospective to their peers.

Providing the children with unique, but structured, learning experiences allows the teachers to develop the children in more than one developmental domain. With this month's study, the teachers were able to further develop the children's cognitive and language skills, enhance their gross and fine motor skills, and most importantly, the children had so much fun.



THE FSC SURGES INTO SPRING

The FSC has had a fruitful month! Staff continued providing free tax services to our community, putting another \$30,000 in refunds back into the hands of our clients. We continued to provide supportive services such as non-perishable items, meats, fruit, diapers, and clothing to over 50 households. We also continued to educate o u r community through multiple workshops, such as Parent Promise, Immigration Rights, Financial Literacy, and College Readiness Workshops.

The FSC recreational teams also continued utilizing our gym to provide free, structural activities for our youth including, drill, drum, cheer, and basketball skills. Most importantly, we continued to thrive and work hard to bring in new clients by attending community network meetings, tabling at local community events, and canvassing our neighborhood.



CFHL MAKES FOOD FUN



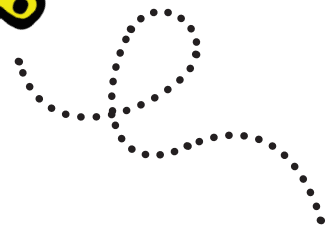
The CalFresh Healthy Living (CFHL) program has been providing nutrition and physical activity lessons at TCCI's King/San Pedro and Rita Walters Childcare Centers. Preschool children participate in activities that teach them the importance of healthy eating and physical activity. They also have the opportunity to taste test recipes that are both creative and nutritious.

The *Grow It, Try It, Like It!* classes cover the following topics:

- Promoting physical activity as a warm-up to the lesson
- Developing healthy eating habits
- Introducing children to healthy foods and recipes by allowing them to touch and explore a featured fruit or vegetable
- Participating in hands-on food preparation activities

CFHL health educators Kat and Citlalli conduct the lessons, traveling to all TCCI sites to provide instruction. They have introduced children to delicious recipes such as:

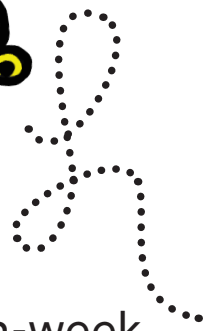
- Strawberry graham cracker pizza
- Strawberry, cantaloupe, and spinach salad
- Alligator smoothie made with spinach and pineapple



BIH WELCOMES NEW MOMS



Last month, the Black Infant Health (BIH) Program recruited 28 eligible women into the BIH program. Of those women, 22 enrolled in either group or one-to-one support services. The program's Lead Community Outreach Liaison, Marquita, and Mental Health Specialist, Lila, have been working diligently to enroll new pregnant or parenting mothers into the BIH program. Their efforts show sincere devotion to BIH's mission of supporting black women and their babies. Our Caregiver Outreach Assistant, Cici, also promoted the program by sharing flyers and referral forms at various organizations throughout South Los Angeles.

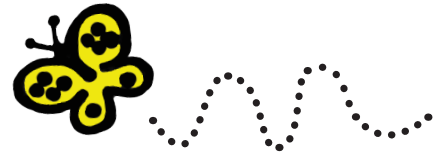


Four of our BIH mothers successfully completed our ten-week prenatal and postpartum group sessions, which provide a safe space for women to share, relax, and laugh. Participants displayed dedication and commitment by showing up each week to learn ways to care for themselves and their babies. Congratulations to our graduating mommas!



FEATURED EMPLOYEE: LASHAWNA HUFFMAN

Site: King/San Pedro Childcare Center



What do you do in your role?

I am a Teacher Assistant at TCCI's King/San Pedro Childcare Center. I provide our children with enriching activities, positive interactions, and fun experiences. I am also a certified CATCH and Smarter Mealtimes Champion Teacher. For CATCH, I teach weekly physical activity lessons to our kids. As a Smarter Mealtimes Champion Teacher, I review the lunch menu with our children each day to teach them about the food groups and the importance of eating fruits and veggies.

What do you like about working at TCCI?

I love the support that we as teachers receive from TCCI's administration. As employees, we are given opportunities to voice our opinion and I feel like my voice matters.



Tell us something about you.

I love to cook with my daughter. It's our special time to laugh, talk, and gossip (especially about all the middle school stuff).

What is your favorite part of the job?

My favorite part of this job is watching the children's personalities begin to bloom. Our children start out shy and quiet but eventually come out of their shells. It's rewarding getting to know our kids and watching their character develop.



NOW **HIRING**

The Children's Collective, Inc.



<u>CASE MANAGER</u>	FamilySource Center
<u>COMMUNITY OUTREACH LIAISON</u>	Black Infant Health Program
<u>FAMILY HEALTH ADVOCATE</u>	Black Infant Health Program
<u>LEAD CASE MANAGER</u>	FamilySource Center
<u>MAINTENANCE WORKER</u>	General Hire
<u>MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST</u>	Black Infant Health Program
<u>PRE SCHOOL TEACHER ASST</u>	Child Development Program
<u>PRE SCHOOL TEACHER</u>	Child Development Program
<u>PROJECT ASSISTANT</u>	Black Infant Health Program
<u>STAFF AND RECRUITING SPECIALIST</u>	General Hire

To Apply:

To browse and apply for any of our open positions, please go to childrenscollective.org/careers or scan the QR code to the right.

Thank you for your interest in employment at The Children's Collective!

